(*b*) The programme of work for 1110 includes the survey of the soils of Shencotta taluk, and further studies of the nutrition of the rice plant, the decomposition of green manures, the composting of night soil and street sweepings and the disintegration of bones by chemical and biological methods.

Work done by the Entomologist during 1109 and 1110.

16. **Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai:** With reference to the working of the Entomologist of the Department of Agriculture, will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the work or works in which he was engaged during 1109 M. E.; and

(*b*) the programme of work chalked out for him during 1110 M. E.?

Mr. K. Paramesvaran Pillai: (*a*) During the year 1109 the Entomologist was engaged in (i) the breeding and liberation of the parasites of plant pests especially Nephantis Serinopa, (ii) demonstration of control measures against the rice stem borer, the rice swarming caterpillar, the rice hispa, the red cocoanut weevil, the black cocoanut beetle, the cocoanut scale, the fig stem borer, the orange aphis, and other pests of cultivated crops and (iii) the study of the life-history of new pests like the pepper mytilapis and cocoanut Kanthyla.

(*b*) The programme of work for 1110 includes

(i) the continued breeding and liberation of Eulophid Sp: to control Nephantis Serinopa;

(ii) large scale compaigns to stamp out the rice stem borer of Nanjinad and the rice swarming caterpillar of Kuttanad;

(iii) a detailed study of all the pests of pepper vine; and

(iv) the demonstration of control measures against such pests as may be newly observed.

Work done by the Mycologist during 1109 & 1110.

17. **Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai:** With reference to the working of the Mycologist of the Department of Agriculture, will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the work or works in which he was engaged during 1109 M. E.; and

(*b*) the programme of work chalked out for him during 1110 M. E.?

Mr. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: (*a*) During the year 1109 the Mycologist was engaged in

(i) the investigation of plant diseases chiefly root disease and shoot rot of cocoanut palms, wilt of areca-nut palms, foot rot of paddy and dry rot of sugarcane;

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[Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai.]

(ii) demonstration of control measures for diseases like wilt, bud-rot, nut fall and bleeding disease of cocoanut palms, Mahali of arecanuts, shoot and leaf spot of betel vines, wilt of pepper and die-back of fruit trees ;

(iii) routine examination of specimens of diseased plants ;

(iv) part-time teaching work in the Agricultural Schools and propaganda in general plant sanitation ; and

(v) collection of data on various aspects of the cocoanut industry in connection with the Special Cocoanut Enquiry instituted by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research.

(*b*) During the year 1110, the investigations and demonstrations mentioned above have to be continued with the addition of work on any new plant diseases which may be observed during the course of the year.

Work done by the Economic Botanist during 1109 & 1110.

18. **Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai :** With reference to the working of the Economic Botanist of the Department of Agriculture will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the work or works in which he was engaged during 1109 M. E. ; and

(*b*) the programme of work chalked out for him during 1110 M. E. ?

Mr. K. Paramesvaran Pillai : (*a*) During the year 1109, the Economic Botanist was engaged in (i) the introduction and acclimatisation of exotic varieties of paddy like Thekkan Cheera double grained and Cigar paddy (ii) the selection and distribution of seeds of superior strains of local varieties like Samba, Valsiramundan, Cherumany and Thattarvella and (iii) the cross breeding of local Samba with imported double grained paddy.

(*b*) Importation of exotics, selection, breeding, multiplication and distribution of seeds of superior strains of paddy will be continued.

Naturopathic Hospital at Karukutty.

19. **Mr. K. Rama Varma Raja :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether the Dewan has received a memorial, signed by more than 300 persons on 13th Medam 1109, praying for help and support from the Government to the Naturopathic institution conducted by Mr. K. V. Michael at Karukutty ; and

(*b*) if so, what steps they have taken in the matter ?

Mr. A. Kumara Pillai : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The concessions asked for were refused.

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